

REMARKS

No claims have been added, canceled or amended.

Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 13-26 are currently pending in the application.

The specification has been amended to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claims 1 and 19 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Ogden (U.S. Patent No. 5,727,336). This rejection is traversed as follows.

Ogden does not disclose an inner fabric layer followed by an open-cell foam and an outer fabric layer, nor an inner fabric layer followed by a foam and backed by a nonwoven top sheet. At column 12, lines 60-63, Ogden states that cushioning layer 56 is made of cross-linked polyethylene or other heat-formable foam material. In response to Applicant's argument that Ogden does not disclose an open-cell foam, the Examiner contends that Ogden at column 11, lines 10-35 teaches that the foam material may be polyurethane or sponge rubber among other foams. The Examiner alleges that sponge rubber is an open-cell foam. This is incorrect. As disclosed in the attached description (Appendix A), sponge rubbers are closed cell rubbers which are impervious to air, water, and dust.

Pursuant to MPEP §2001.06(c), Applicant hereby informs the Patent Office that the patent which issued from a related application, U.S. Patent No. 6,048,810, is involved in litigation in the United States District Court for the District of Maine (Baychar, Inc. et al. v. Frisby Technologies, Inc. et al., Civil Docket No. CV-01-28-B). Any material information arising from this litigation will promptly be brought to the attention of the Patent Office.

Examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 4, 2001

SPONGE RUBBER

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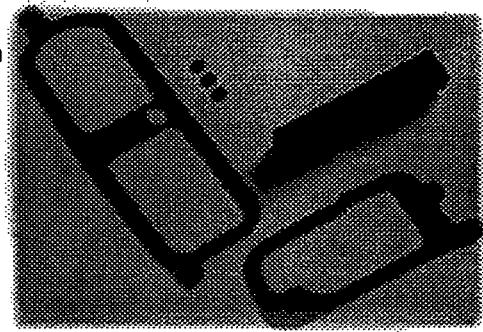
Sponge Rubber

Sponge rubbers are closed cell rubbers which are impervious to air, water, and dust. They are most commonly used for weather stripping and gasketing applications. Sponge rubbers are formed by combining ingredients and then molding the compound under heat and pressure. During the molding process, gas is used to create the unique cellular structure of the sponge. An array of compounds, such as Neoprene, EPDM, SBR, and Vinyl Nitrile are available to meet specific needs such as resistance to heat, flame, ozone or petroleum products.



Common Applications:

- Weather stripping for automotive glass applications
- Gasketing for acoustical/speaker mounts
- Sealing exterior lighting (headlights/tail lamps)
- HVAC/Air handling system seals and thermal insulation
- Vibration isolators for interior automotive components



Available Sizes:

Thickness: .1.6mm - 25mm

Width: 2mm - 1000mm

Length: 2mm - 1700M

Piqua Technologies is a leading applications solutions provider when it comes to fabricating sponge rubber. Our state-of-the-art production facility and application engineers have extensive experience developing unique solutions. We welcome examining your manufacturing challenges. To see examples of our applications solutions, click here: [CUSTOM FABRICATING](#). Or, [CONTACT US](#) to discuss your specific sponge rubber requirements.

Polymer	Soprene-EPDM-SBR Blend			EPT		EPDM			Neoprene		
	RE 42 E1	RE 43 E1	RE 41	RE 41	RE 42	RE 43	RE 41 E1	RE 41 E1	RE 41 E1	RE 41 E1	RE 41 E1
ASTM D-1056	SCS 42 E1	SCS 43 E1	SCS 41 E1				SCS 41 E1	SCS 41 E1	SCS 41 E1	SCS 41 E1	SCS 41 E1
ASTM D-1056-85	2A2/2C2	2A3/2C3	2A1 F2	2A1 F2	2A2 F2	2A3 F2	2C1 E1	2C2 E1	2C2 E1	2C2 E1	2C2 E1
MEP 6130B	F1	F1					Grade C	Grade C	Grade C	Grade A	Grade A
Type 1							Soft	Stiff	Med	Med	Med
25%	5-9	9-13	2-5	2-5	5-9	9-13	2-5	2-5	5-9	5-9	5-9
Compression Deflection (PSI)											
Shore 00 Durometer (Approx.)	40-60	50-70	15-35	30-50	40-60	50-70	30-50	40-60			
Density (Approx. p.c.f.)	7-11	8-13	4-7	9-14	9-14	12-20	7-13	8-14			
Water Absorption by Weight (Max. %)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5			
Temperature Range	-70 to 225 F	-70 to 225 F	-90 to 257 F	-70 to 200 F	-70 to 200 F						
Weather Resistance	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent			
Linear shrinkage (Max)% 7 days at 158 degrees F	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5			
Flame 11 Resistance % (Maximum Weight Increase)							150	150			
Tensile Strength (PSI) (Typical)	50	70	30	60	65	70	60	70			
Elongation % (Typical)	150	120	150	160	180	200	150	130			
FM VSS#302	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass			
MEP 6130B											
UL 94 HBF	Pass	Pass	Pass				Pass	Pass			
UL 94 HFL	Pass	Pass	Pass				Pass	Pass			
Fungus Resistance	Pass	Pass									
ASTM G21-70											

The technical data contained in this chart is for information purposes only. Please contact Piqua's Program Development Department to discuss product suitability for individual applications.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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